



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
HEARTLAND REGION -- MISSOURI FIELD OFFICE
601 Business Loop 70 West, Suite 213E
Columbia, Missouri 65203



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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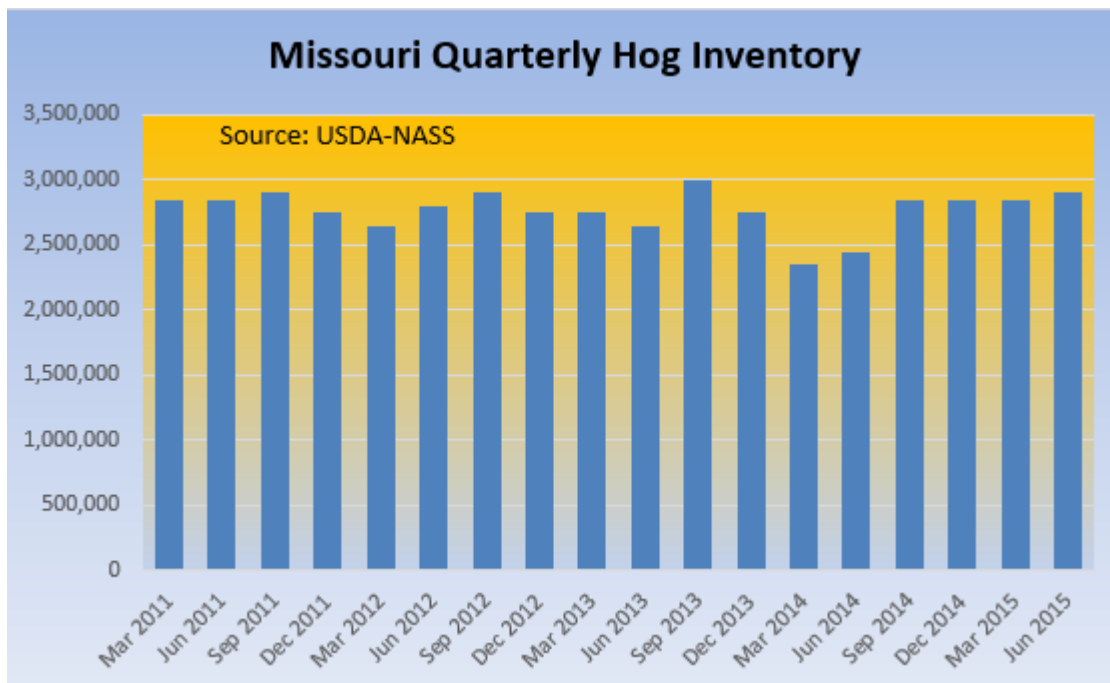
Contact: Robert Garino
(800) 551-1014

USDA QUARTERLY HOGS AND PIGS SURVEY COMING SOON

Columbia, MO – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) is reminding hog producers nationwide to keep an eye out for the Quarterly Hogs and Pigs Survey. Next conducted in early September, the quarterly survey will gather detailed data on inventories of market hog and breeding stock inventories as well as farrowing intentions.

Producers who receive the survey questionnaire in the mail can respond via the Internet, mail or fax. Producers who do not respond in one of those ways will have the opportunity for a telephone or personal interview.

The data gathered in these quarterly surveys allow NASS to accurately measure and report conditions and trends in the U.S. pork industry over the course of the year. The information is used by all sectors of the industry to make strategic decisions and guide investments.



As is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law.

"NASS safeguards the privacy of all respondents and publishes only state- and national-level data, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified," said Bob Garino, State Statistician of the NASS Missouri Office.

NASS will publish the survey results in the Quarterly Hogs and Pigs report on September 25. All NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Heartland Regional Field Office at (800) 551-1014.

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